

22nd October 1927]

A.—(a) The hon. Member is referred to G.O.s. No. 733, Public, dated 3rd August 1925, and No. 102, Public, dated 18th September 1925, which were published. One of the members, M.R.Ry. A. S. Krishna Rao Pantulu Garu, has since resigned.

(b) The Government have no information.

(c) The committee was formed on 3rd August 1925 and has not yet been dissolved.

(d) The Government have not yet received the committee's report.

(e) & (f) The committee are dealing with a very difficult question and the Government have no desire to hurry them or to fix a particular limit to their deliberations.

Survey and Settlement

Pensions or gratuities to temporary draftsmen.

* 817 Q.—Mr. T. ADINAKAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that there are a large number of draftsmen in the Central Survey Office on temporary service; and, if so, how many;

(b) the longest period any of them have been kept as temporary;

(c) whether it is a fact that provision has been made in the Civil Service Regulations to give them pension or gratuity after 25 years' service;

(d) whether it is a fact that a few men recently retired after 25 years' service and whether they were not given any gratuity or pension;

(e) how many men are on 'temporary' service at present who have put in more than 20 years' service;

(f) whether it is a fact that these men have sent a memorial to Government; and

(g) what action Government propose to take thereon?

A.—(a) There are 150 temporary draftsmen (including computers).

(b) The Government have not the information.

(c) No.

(d) The Government know of two such cases.

(e) The number of temporary draftsmen who had put in twenty years' continuous service or more was 48 in February 1927.

(f) & (g) The Government have received copies of memorials from a few temporary draftsmen requesting that a time-scale of pay should be given to them instead of grade pay and that an appreciable number of them should be confirmed. No action was taken as they were only copies of memorials submitted through the Director of Survey and the Board of Revenue. The original memorials have not yet reached Government.

Forests

Report regarding the alleged death of Mr. B. Ponnayya, a forest ranger in Kurnool district.

* 818 Q.—Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU: Will the hon. the Home Member and the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received any report regarding the death under suspicious circumstances of Mr. B. Ponnayya, a forest ranger in Kurnool district; and

(b) if so, whether it will be placed on the table of the House?